

11/18/98

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of rendering sections arranged to respectively render generate color component images on the basis of data common to the respective color components, wherein each rendering section receives the common data and renders the common data into so as to generate one of the color component images; and

a converter arranged to convert the rendered generated color component images into color component images for printing in synchronism with operation of a printer engine.

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2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to ~~Claim~~ claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of rendering sections comprises a memory having a memory capacity large enough to render generate at least a two-band color component image obtained by dividing a page into bands.

3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said memory is divided into areas in units of bands, and the divided areas are alternately used for the image rendering operation and outputting of an image to said converter.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a rendering controller arranged to respectively supply the common data to each of said plurality of rendering sections at substantially the same time and to control said

plurality of rendering sections to simultaneously ~~render~~ generate additive color mixture images.

5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an output section arranged to output the color component images for printing to the printer engine in accordance with the operation of the printer engine.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according ~~the claim to claim~~ 5, wherein said output section comprises a delay section arranged to compensate timing differences in forming the respective color component images in the printer engine.

7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the data common to the respective color components is made up of a display list and print element data.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the display list is a list of print elements obtained by dividing a print image and arranged in an order of occurrence.

9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the print element data is image data representing one of a character, symbol, graphic pattern, color data, and image data.

10. (Currently Amended) An image processing method comprising the steps of:

~~rendering generating~~ color component images by operating a plurality of rendering sections, respectively, on the basis of data common to the respective color components, wherein each rendering section receives the common data and renders the common data ~~into so as to generate~~ one of the color component ~~iamges~~ ~~images~~; and  
converting the ~~rendered generated~~ color component images into color component images for printing in synchronism with operation of a printer engine.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of ~~rendering generating~~ a color component image in units of bands by using a memory having a memory capacity enough to ~~render generate~~ at least a two-band image.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of dividing the memory into areas in units of bands, and alternately using the divided areas for image rendering in said ~~rendering generating~~ step and outputting of an image for conversion in said converting step.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product storing a computer-readable medium comprising program code for an image processing method, said method comprising the steps of:

rendering generating color component images by operating a plurality of rendering sections, respectively, on the basis of data common to the respective color components, wherein each rendering section receives the common data and renders the common data into so as to generate one [[fo]] of the color component images; and

converting the rendered generated color component images into color components component images for printing in synchronism with operation of a printer engine.

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